

U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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EVENT: Indictment

Defendant: Joseph Costa Pacheco III

PLYMOUTH MAN INDICTED IN CONNECTION WITH FIVE BANK ROBBERIES

Joseph Costa Pacheco III, 32, of Plymouth was indicted by a federal grand jury in Detroit on five counts of bank robbery, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Mr. Murphy was joined in the announcement by Andrew G. Arena, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Detroit field office.

The indictment charges Pacheco with committing five bank robberies:

- October 15, 2007 -- National City Bank, 39475 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth Township, resulting in a loss of \$4,460.00
- October 19, 2007 -- Chase Bank, 32203 Plymouth Rd., Livonia, resulting in a loss of \$2,106.00
- October 23, 2007 -- Charter One Bank, 31441 Plymouth Rd., Livonia, resulting in a loss of \$752.00
- October 24, 2007 -- Charter One Bank, 23220 Farmington Rd., Farmington, resulting in a loss of \$3,501.95
- October 29, 2007 -- Flagstar Bank, 3915 Telegraph Rd., Bloomfield Hills, resulting in a loss of \$4,912.11

Each of the five counts of bank robbery is punishable by up to 20 years' imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said, "The swift law enforcement response to this rash of bank robberies is a tribute to the excellent federal, state, and local cooperation that made today's charges possible. I commend the excellent investigative effort involved at all levels of government."

An indictment is only a charging document and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and it is the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Pacheco was arrested at his home on October 30, 2007 by law enforcement officers from the Western Wayne County Community Response Team, a group of law enforcement officials from the Michigan State Police, Wayne County Sheriff's Department, Plymouth Township, Canton Township, and Northville Township. Officers from the City of Farmington and Livonia Township also assisted in the investigation.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Leonid Feller.